

**Administration on Aging
and
Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services**

Aging and Disability Resource Center Grant Program

Organization Name: Pennsylvania Department of Aging

Project Title: Aging and Disability Resource Center

Total Project Period: 9/30/2003 – 9/29/2006

Total Award Amount: \$764,000

Project Contact: Gregory Howe, (717) 705-6624

Project's Overall Design:

Pennsylvania will plan and operate four demonstration Resource Centers located in diverse areas of the state to assist all consumers and family members who need information, counseling, assessment and assistance in applying for long-term care services. In two of the Centers, personnel from all relevant service agencies will be co-located at the Centers. In the remaining two Centers, relevant agencies will be connected via the internet to each other and the co-located Centers to provide uniform delivery of information, assistance and access services. A single application for services will be developed, the eligibility process will be streamlined and a common assessment tool will be developed and utilized by all of the Centers. By the end of the project period, a plan will be established to expand the Resource Centers statewide, based on a comprehensive evaluation.

Target Population:

- Year One – All populations with disabilities
- Year Two & Three – All populations with disabilities

Anticipated Outcomes:

- Simplify and streamline access to long-term care and ensure that each individual's need for services is determined and addressed promptly.
- Maximize consumer choice and provide services in a consumer friendly manner, respecting and ensuring dignity of all served.
- Create a more balanced system of long-term care to include more home and community-based services.

Involvement of Stakeholders and Community Based Organizations:

- Advisory Committee: each Resource Center will have an advisory committee comprised of consumers, advocates, professionals, local elected officials and representatives from state agencies.
- Partners: a statewide project advisory committee led by the Office of Health Care Reform (located in the Governor's Office), will include consumers, advocates, providers and representatives from state agencies.